

## Scott Jones

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**From:** Dave Lather <dlather@gtmetrofire.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2012 12:10 PM  
**To:** The Office of Senator Rocca  
**Cc:** Scott Jones; mobrian@brightonareafire.com; pokei@michigan.gov  
**Subject:** House Bill 4561 to Amend PA 230 of 1972 as amended.

Senator Rocca, Committee Chair  
Senate Regulatory Reform Committee

Dear Senator Rocca:

Now that House Bill 4561 actually got through the House, I find it more compelling to ask you to take a closer look at the players; the important public safety issues seem to have gotten lost in this battle. The opponents are code officials representing public safety and the proponents are contractors /builders with plenty of PAC money.

As a retired code official with seventeen years experience and a past appointee to the Michigan State Construction Code Commission, I am extremely disappointed that this piece of legislation was even introduced, let alone passed. It is apparent from reading the Legislative Analysis that the push came from a few large lobby groups - aka PAC's. I am retired and it would be very easy for me to just forget it, but it is very troubling to me to see our elected officials yield to political pressure groups that have the resources to influence. No, I don't expect elected officials to be highly informed on each and every subject, but I expect those in position of enacting the laws of our state to educate themselves on matters of which they have little personal knowledge of very technical issues, then vote in the best interest of the public and not in the best interest of a PAC group.

As you might sense, I am extremely disappointed in the action of the House so I hope the Senate sees this legislation for what it is. This nation operates on three year building code cycles, what makes Michigan so unique that we now have to wait up to six years before new technology can be introduced in the built environment?

When this reaches the Senate I urge you to vote on the issue and not an agenda, motivated by profit. Someone has to speak for public safety and it certainly will not come from the proponents. It depends on you to vote in the interest of the public and a safely built environment.

I have expressed my concern to my Senator, Howard Walker, and my Representative, Wayne Schmidt, but neither have responded to my communications.

Sincerely,

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